

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-15 ISO-00 AF-10 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-10
EB-08 AID-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
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SS-15 ICA-20 OIC-02 /154 W
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P R 121134Z SEP 78

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7404

INFO USUN NEW YORK 816

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 BUENOS AIRES 7111

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID,UN,TCDC

SUBJECT: UN CONFERENCE ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (TCDC) -- PLENARY MEETINGS OF
SEPTEMBER 8

1. SUMMARY: MORNING SPEAKERS WERE ZAIRE, BARBADOS,
MOZAMBIQUE, COUNCIL OF ARAB ECONOMIC UNITY, CAPE VERDE,
ALGERIA, SWAZILAND, BENIN, CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE, AND
MAURITIUS. THE AFTERNOON SPEAKERS WERE GUINEAU-BISAU,
HUNGARY, SYRIA, SOMALIA, IVORY COAST, GABON, INTER-
GOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR EUROPEAN MIGRATION, INTER-
GOVERNMENTAL
BUREAU FOR INFORMATICS, AGENCE DE COOPERATION
CULTURELLE ET TECHNIQUE, WEST INDIA ASSOCIATED STATES, AND,
IN EXERCISE OF THEIR RIGHT OF REPLY, ISRAEL AND IRAQ.
WHILE THE DEBATE ON TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF TCDC CONTINUED
PREVIOUS MODERATE TRENDS, THE AFTERNOON MEETING WAS ALSO
NOTEWORTHY FOR THE ATTACK BY SYRIA ON ISRAEL AND THE
CONSEQUENT EXCHANGES BETWEEN THEM AT THE END OF THE
MEETING. THE GENERAL DEBATE IS CONCLUDED, EXCEPT FOR
SOME SPEECHES BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS ON
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SEP 11. END SUMMARY.

2. THE MORNING PLENARY HEARD MORE SUPPORT FOR INCOR-
PORATING TCDC INTO ONGOING UN DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE
ACTIVITIES AND FOR THE CONCEPT THAT TCDC SHOULD SUPPLEMENT
AND NOT SUPPLANT NORTH/SOUTH COOPERATION. ZAIRE EMPHASIZED
QTHE NEED FOR INFORMATION FLOWS, INCLUDING INTELLECTUAL

PROPERTY, BARBADOS EMPHASIZED TCDC WITHIN A CONTEXT OF ECDC.

3. MOZAMBIQUE CHRONICLED THE HARSH CONDITIONS IN THAT COUNTRY AND WENT ON TO DISCUSS IN CONSIDERABLE DETAIL THE NEED FOR ATTENTION TO IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF THE WORLD'S WOMEN.

4. THE COUNCIL OF ARAB ECONOMIC UNITY SAID IT WAS CONSIDERING HOSTING A JOINT MEETING OF ECA, ECWA, AND OTHER REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO CONSIDER THE DEVELOPMENT NEEDS OF ASIA AND AFRICA. ALGERIA INVOKED THE KUWAIT DECLARATION AND EMPHASIZEE THE OBLIGATION OF THE INDUSTRIALIZED WORLD TO ASSIST THE LDC'S AND SUPPORTED TCDC AS A COMPLEMENT TO NORTH/SOUTH COOPERATION.

5. SWAZILAND EMPHASIZED THE GREAT BURDEN OF DEBT SERVICING, AND COMMENDED THE NORDIC COUNTRIES IN PARTICULAR FOR DEBT CANCELLATIONS. THE CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE ALSO COMPLAINED ABOUT DEBTS, AND ASKED FOR EXPORT EARNINGS GUARANTEES. BENIN CRITICIZED FORMER COLONIAL EXPLOITATION AND COUNTRIES (CHANA) THAT HAVE PUPPET REGIMES COMPLAISANT TO THE WESTERN COUNTRIES. MAURITIUS SUGGESTED A CLEARING HOUSE OF TCDC INFORMATION AND EMPHASIZED THAT TCDC SHOULD NOT DEPEND ON ADDITIONALITY.

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6. THE AFTERNOON SPEAKERS CONTINUED TO EMPHASIZE THE NEED TO STRENGTHEN EXISTING UNDP MACHINERY. AND TO ENCOURAGE N-SOUTH AS WELL AS SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION. SOMALIA AND THE WEST INDIES ASSOCIATED STATES MADE APPEALS FOR SPECIAL CONSIDERATION OF THE NEEDS OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. SOMALIA ALSO PROPOSED THAT THE CURRENT UNDP AID LEVELS FOR THE LLDC'S BE INCREASED IN ORDER TO FINANCE TCDC ACTIVITIES WITHOUT CUTTING DOWN ON THEIR OTHER PROGRAMS. GUINEA-BISSAU AND SYRIA MADE VERY IDEOLOGICAL STATEMENTS WHICH FOCUSED ON THE NEED FOR THE CAPITALIST WEST TO DO MORE TO REMEDY THEIR PAST AND PRESENT HARMFUL ACTIONS AGAINST THE SOUTH AND HELP ESTABLISH A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER. THE IVORY COAST AND GABON GAVE WELL-BALANCED STATEMENTS FOCUSING ON THE NEED FOR COOPERATION RATHER THAN CONFLICT.

7. THE SYRIAN STATEMENT INCLUDED A SECTION WHICH MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS: "THE IMPLANTATION OF ISRAEL BY THE COLONIAL POWERS IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS CENTURY" HAS HAD A NEGATIVE EFFECT ON ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

IN THE AREA BECAUSE THE ARAB STATES HAVE HAD TO DIVERT
RESOURCES IN ORDER TO CONTROL ISRAELI AMBITIONS WHICH
THREATEN THEIR EXISTENCE; AND INTERNATIONAL ZIONISM
EMBODIES RACISM. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SYRIAN STATE-
MENT, ISRAEL, ON A POINT OF ORDER, ASKED FOR THE RIGHT
OF REPLY. THE ACTING CHAIRMAN, IN ACCORDANCE WITH
THE RULES OF PROCEDURE, STATED THAT THIS WOULD BE
GRANTED AT THE END OF THE MEETING. THE GENERAL DEBATE
THEN RESUMED, DURING THE COURSE OF WHICH GABON, SPEAKING
FOR ITSELF " AND PERHAPS ALL AFRICAN DELEGATIONS,"
EXPRESSED DEEP DISPLEASURE WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF
EXTRANEIOUS MATTERS BY SOME DELEGATIONS (REAE SYRIA).
THE ISRAELI REPLY TO THE SYRIAN AT THE END OF THE
AFTERNOON, EMPHASIZED THAT SYRIAN INDEPENDENCE WAS
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NEVER THREATENED BY ISRAEL, BUT RATHER THE REVERSE WAS
TRUE; AND THAT PEACE AND COOPERATION IN THE AREA
COULD ONLY BE OF MAJOR BENEFIT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF
SYRIA.

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SYRIA THEN EXERCISED ITS RIGHT OF REPLY BY SAYING
THAT SYRIA NEVER LAUNCHED A WAR BUT ONLY WAS REACTING
TO ISRAELI AMBITIONS, THAT WHAT HE HAD SAID ABOUT

ZIONISM/RACISM WAS ONLY THE GIST OF MANY RESOLUTIONS OF THE UN, OAU, AND NAM. CHAIRMAN POZZO INTERRUPTED TO SAY TIME WAS RUNNING SHORT AND COULD THE SYRIA REPLY BE FINISHED QUICKLY. AFTER A FURTHER BRIEF INTERVENTION BY ISRAEL, IRAQ SAID IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO TALK ABOUT PEACE WHILE ARAB LAND WAS OCCUPIED AND THE WHOLE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE WERE WITHOUT A HOMELAND. ON THAT NOTE, THE MEETING CAME TO A CLOSE.
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